

Kentucky's Learning Goals And Academic Expectations

The centerpiece of Kentucky's education reform effort is its vision of what students should know and be able to do as a result of their school experience. Every aspect of the reform movement is designed to promote student attainment of these goals and to measure our progress in helping them to do so.

Assumption underlying KERA

All students are capable of learning.

The expectations for students are set forth as the six learning goals of KERA. These goals led to the development of the academic expectations that characterize student achievement of the goals. All Kentucky students are expected to achieve the goals and academic expectations.

1. All Kentucky schools shall develop their students' ability to able to use basic communication and mathematics skills for purposes and situations they will encounter throughout their lives.

- [1.1](#) Students use reference tools such as dictionaries, almanacs, encyclopedias, and computer reference programs and research tools such as interviews and surveys to find the information they need to meet specific demands, explore interests, or solve specific problems.
- [1.2](#) Students make sense of the variety of materials they read.
- [1.3](#) Students make sense of the various things they observe.
- [1.4](#) Students make sense of the various messages to which they listen.
- [1.5-1.9](#) Students use mathematical ideas and procedures to communicate, reason, and solve problems.
- [1.10](#) Students organize information through development and use of classification rules and systems.
- [1.11](#) Students write using appropriate forms, conventions, and styles to communicate ideas and information to different audiences for different purposes.

- [1.12](#) Students speak using appropriate forms, conventions, and styles to communicate ideas and information to different audiences for different purposes.
- [1.13](#) Students make sense of ideas and communicate ideas with the visual arts.
- [1.14](#) Students make sense of ideas and communicate ideas with music.
- [1.15](#) Students make sense of and communicate ideas with movement.
- [1.16](#) Students use computers and other kinds of technology to collect, organize, and communicate information and ideas.

2. All Kentucky schools shall develop their students' ability to apply core concepts and principles from [mathematics](#), the [sciences](#), the [arts](#), the [humanities](#), [social studies](#), [practical living studies](#), and [vocational studies](#) to what they will encounter throughout their lives.

Science

- [2.1](#) Students understand scientific ways of thinking and working and use those methods to solve real-life problems.
- [2.2](#) Students identify, analyze, and use patterns such as cycles and trends to understand past and present events and predict possible future events.
- 2.3 Students identify and analyze systems and the ways their components work together or affect each other.
- 2.4 Students use the concept of scale and scientific models to explain the organization and functioning of living and nonliving things and predict other characteristics that might be observed.
- 2.5 Students understand that under certain conditions nature tends to remain the same or move toward a balance.
- 2.6 Students understand how living and nonliving things change over time and the factors that influence the changes.

Mathematics

- [2.7](#) Students understand number concepts and use numbers appropriately and accurately.
- [2.8](#) Students understand various mathematical procedures and use them appropriately and accurately.

- [2.9](#) Students understand space and dimensionality concepts and use them appropriately and accurately.
- [2.10](#) Students understand measurement concepts and use measurements appropriately and accurately.
- [2.11](#) Students understand mathematical change concepts and use them appropriately and accurately.
- [2.12](#) Students understand mathematical structure concepts including the properties and logic of various mathematical systems.
- [2.13](#) Students understand and appropriately use statistics and probability.

Social Studies

- [2.14](#) Students understand the democratic principles of justice, equality, responsibility, and freedom and apply them to real-life situations.
- [2.15](#) Students can accurately describe various forms of government and analyze issues that relate to the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy.
- [2.16](#) Students observe, analyze, and interpret human behaviors, social groupings, and institutions to better understand people and the relationships among individuals and among groups.
- [2.17](#) Students interact effectively and work cooperatively with the many ethnic and cultural groups of our nation and world.
- [2.18](#) Students understand economic principles and are able to make economic decisions that have consequences in daily living.
- [2.19](#) Students recognize and understand the relationship between people and geography and apply their knowledge in real-life situations.
- [2.20](#) Students understand, analyze, and interpret historical events, conditions, trends, and issues to develop historical perspective.
- 2.21 (Incorporated into 2.16)

Arts and Humanities

- [2.22](#) Students create works of art and make presentations to convey a point of view.

- [2.23](#) Students analyze their own and others' artistic products and performances using accepted standards.
- [2.24](#) Students have knowledge of major works of art, music, and literature and appreciate creativity and the contributions of the arts and humanities.
- [2.25](#) In the products they make and the performances they present, students show that they understand how time, place, and society influence the arts and humanities such as languages, literature, and history.
- [2.26](#) Through the arts and humanities, student recognize that although people are different, they share some common experiences and attitudes.
- [2.27](#) Students recognize and understand the similarities and differences among languages.
- [2.28](#) Students understand and communicate in a second language.

Practical Living

- [2.29](#) Students demonstrate skills that promote individual well-being and healthy family relationships.
- 2.30 Students evaluate consumer products and services and make effective consumer decisions.
- 2.31 Students demonstrate the knowledge and skills they need to remain physically healthy and to accept responsibility for their own physical well-being.
- 2.32 Students demonstrate strategies for becoming and remaining mentally and emotionally healthy.
- 2.33 Students demonstrate the skills to evaluate and use services and resources available in their community.
- 2.34 Students perform physical movement skills effectively in a variety of settings.
- 2.35 Students demonstrate knowledge and skills that promote physical activity and involvement in physical activity throughout lives.

Vocational Studies

- [2.36](#) Students use strategies for choosing and preparing for a career.
- [2.37](#) Students demonstrate skills and work habits that lead to

success in future schooling and work.

- 2.38 Students demonstrate skills such as interviewing, writing resumes, and completing applications that are needed to be accepted into college or other postsecondary training or to get a job.

3. All Kentucky schools shall develop their students' ability to become self-sufficient individuals of good character exhibiting the qualities of altruism, citizenship, courtesy, honesty, human worth, justice, knowledge, respect, responsibility, and self-discipline.*

- 3.1 Students demonstrate positive growth in self-concept through appropriate tasks or projects
- 3.2 Students demonstrate the ability to maintain a healthy lifestyle.
- 3.3 Students demonstrate the ability to be adaptable and flexible through appropriate tasks or projects.
- 3.4 Students demonstrate the ability to be resourceful and creative.
- 3.5 Students demonstrate self-control and self discipline.
- 3.6 Students demonstrate the ability to make decisions based on ethical values.
- 3.7 Students demonstrate the ability to learn on one's own.

4. All Kentucky schools shall develop their students' ability to become responsible members of a family, work group, or community, including demonstrating effectiveness in community service.*

- 4.1 Students effectively use interpersonal skills.
- 4.2 Students use productive team membership skills.
- 4.3 Students individually demonstrate consistent, responsive, and caring behavior.
- 4.4 Students demonstrate the ability to accept the rights and responsibilities for self and others.
- 4.5 Students demonstrate an understanding of, appreciation for, and sensitivity to a multi-cultural and world view.
- 4.6 Students demonstrate an open mind to alternative perspectives.

***Goals 3 and 4 are included in Kentucky statute as learning goals, but they are not included in the state's academic assessment program.**

5. All Kentucky schools shall develop their students' ability to think and solve problems in school situations and in a variety of situations they will encounter in life.

- [5.1](#) Students use critical thinking skills such as analyzing, prioritizing, categorizing, evaluating, and comparing to solve a variety of problems in real-life situations.
- [5.2](#) Students use creative thinking skills to develop or invent novel, constructive ideas or products.
- [5.3](#) Students organize information to develop or change their understanding of a concept.
- [5.4](#) Students use a decision-making process to make informed decisions among options.
- [5.5](#) Students use problem-solving processes to develop solutions to relatively complex problems.

6. All Kentucky school shall develop their students' ability to connect and integrate experiences and new knowledge from all subject matter fields with what they have previously learned and build on past learning experiences to acquire new information through various media sources.

- [6.1](#) Students connect knowledge and experiences from different subject areas.
- [6.2](#) Students use what they already know to acquire new knowledge, develop new skills, or interpret new experiences.
- [6.3](#) Students expand their understanding of existing knowledge by making connections with new knowledge, skills, and experiences.